



ROYTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL
REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
and
Sanitary Inspector
for the Year
1944




ROYTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL
REPORT

of the
Medical Officer of Health
and
Sanitary Inspector
for the Year
1944



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30045940>

ROYTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman of the Council 1944-45:

Councillor A. BARKER, J.P.

HEALTH COMMITTEE 1944-45.

Councillor A. Cocker, Chairman.

Councillor H. Perkins, Vice-Chairman.

Councillor A. Barker, J.P.

Councillor W. Butterfield.

Councillor W. Downie.

Councillor F. Ford.

Councillor G. Hasty, J.P.

Councillor H. Howarth.

Councillor T. Hudson.

Councillor F. Kenworthy.

Councillor T. H. Lowe.

Councillor I. Lumb.

Councillor J. Shepherd.

Councillor J. Smethurst.

Councillor W. Dunkerley.

Clerk of the Council:

A. Donald Ogden, Esq.

Acting Medical Officer of Health:

Hedley Boardman, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector:

G. Cayton, M.S.I.A.

Clerk:

Miss O. Buckley.

**INTERIM REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1944.**

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ROYTON.

Gentlemen,

As you are aware in the earlier part of 1945 Doctor Boardman resigned his position as your Medical Officer of Health. By virtue of that fact the report of the health of the district during the year ended 31st December, 1944, is largely statistical in character.

Apart from an epidemic of Scarlet Fever occurring in the last quarter of the year, there does not appear to have been any factor affecting the health of the inhabitants of an unusual or unexpected nature.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

J. S. G. BURNETT,

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT, 1944.

Table 1.—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in Acres	2,149
Population (Census 1931)	16,689
Registrar-General's Estimated resident population 1944 ...	13,810
Number of inhabited houses (Census 1931)	4,370
End of 1944, according to the Rate books... ..	4,781
Rateable value £83.951.	
Sum represented by a penny rate	£.352.

Table II—Vital Statistics, 1944.

Live Births	Total	Males	Females		
Legitimate ...	261	140	121	Birth-rate per 1,000	
Illegitimate	2	1	1	estimated population	
				mid-1944	19.0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>		
Total ...	263	141	122		
				Rate per 1,000 total	
Still Births ..	4	2	2	(live and still) births	14.
Deaths (^{all} ages)	213	115	98	Death-rate per 1,000	
				estimated population	15.4

Table III—Causes of Deaths during 1944.

	MALES	FEMALES
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0	0
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0	0
3. Scarlet Fever	0	0
4. Whooping Cough	0	0
5. Diphtheria	0	0
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	3	6
7. Other forms of Tuberculosis	0	1
8. Syphilitic Diseases	0	0
9. Influenza	0	0
10. Measles	0	0
11. Ac : polio-myel : and polio-enceph :	0	0
12. Ac : inf : enceph :	0	0
13. Cancer of b : cav : and oesoph (m) } uterus (f) }	3	0
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	6	1
15. Cancer of Breast	0	5
16. Cancer of all other sites	10	4
17. Diabetes	2	1
18. Intracranial vasc : lesions	8	4
19. Heart Disease	41	40
20. Other Diseases of Circulatory System	2	2
21. Bronchitis	20	5
22. Pneumonia	3	5
23. Other Respiratory Diseases	1	0
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	0	0
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years	0	0
26. Appendicitis	0	0
27. Other Digestive Diseases	2	1
28. Nephritis	1	6
29. Puer : & post-abortion : sepsis	0	1
30. Other Maternal causes	0	0
31. Premature Birth	0	0
32. Con : Mal : Birth Inj : Infant : Dis :	3	3
33. Suicide	0	1
34. Road Traffic Accidents	1	1
35. Other violent causes	2	2
36. All other causes	7	9
All causes ...	115	98
TOTAL.....	213	

Table IV.—Deaths classified in Age Groups.

Under one year	11
1 — 2 years	0
2 — 5 „	1
5 — 15 „	0
15 — 25 „	6
25 — 45 „	10
45 — 65 „	61
65 — 75 „	60
75 years and upwards...	64
<hr/>	
Total ...	213

Table V.—Infantile Deaths and Causes.

Under one year.

CAUSES OF DEATH				Under 1 Week	1 and under 2 weeks	2 and under 3 weeks	3 and under 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1 and under 3 months	3 and under 6 months	6 and under 9 months	9 and under 12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2	1	1	...	...	4
Congenital Debility...	...	}	...	3	...	...	...	3	3	...	...	...	6
Premature Birth ...	...		...							
Malformations etc. ...	...		...							
Other Violence ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	..	...	1
Total ...				4	...	1	...	5	5	1	...	...	11

Death-rate of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births...	...	...	...	...	41
Legitimate infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	42
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 Illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	Nil

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE .

Table VI — Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1944.

DISEASES.	CASES NOTIFIED.															Total Cases removed to Hospital from Home	Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to the District.
	Total Cases at all ages.	YEARS											Total Deaths				
		Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65		65 and over			
Scarlet Fever	(a) 128	3	4	4	5	44	57	7	3	...	1	...	...	(b) ...	70	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup).	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Measles	137	5	11	21	34	48	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Whooping Cough ...	7	1	4	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Acute Primary Pneumonia	5	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken Pox	26	1	2	1	...	16	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	1
Totals	309	7	16	25	26	40	112	61	12	5	3	2	...	1	77	1	

Table VII.—DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Number of children immunised in 1944.

Under 5 years	...	136
Ages 5 to 15 years		23
Total		159

Percentage of children immunised on December 31st, 1944

Ages 1 to 5 years	...	54%
Ages 5 to 15 years	...	61%

Table VIII.—Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1944

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years								
0— 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1— 5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
5—10	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...
10—15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15—20	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	1
20—25	1	2	1	1	1	2	...	...
25—35	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
35—45	1	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
45—55	1	2	...	...	1	1	...	...
55—65	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and upwards	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	...
Totals	7	8	3	4	3	6	...	1
	15		7		9		1	

PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS 1940-42.

These require particulars of all persons of certain specified age groups whose names are, or have been, on the Tuberculosis Register to be furnished to the Ministry of Labour. This information is made available to the Medical Boards examining candidates for enlistment in His Majesty's Forces.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Ambulance Facilities and Hospital Arrangements:—

There has been no change during the year in these arrangements.

Child Welfare Centre:—

Clinics are held weekly on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons at the village school.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

Dr Kershaw, Dental Surgeon to the Lancashire County Council, has kindly given advice and treatment to many babies and expectant mothers attending the Child Welfare Centre.

1,643 children were inspected and 1,003 found to require treatment.

EMERGENCY SUPPLY OF ANTI-TOXIN.

Diphtheria anti-toxin serum is kept at the Police Station and supplied in cases of emergency to Medical Practitioners in the District upon request at any time.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Arrangements for biological, bacteriological, and chemical examinations exist with the Public Health Laboratory, York Place, Manchester.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

List of Adoptive Acts relating to Public Health in force in the district with date of adoption.

The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890
(From 1st October, 1891)
repealed in part by P.H.A., 1936.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890
(From 1st October, 1891)
repealed in part by P.H.A., 1936.

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907
(From 16th January, 1914)

Part (2) Streets and Buildings
repealed in part by P.H.A., 1936.

Part (4) Infectious Diseases
repealed in part by P.H.A., 1936.

Part (6) Recreation Grounds.

The Public Health Act, 1925
(From 1st March, 1926)

Part (2) Streets and Buildings
repealed in part by P.H.A., 1936.

ROYTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

**THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT
FOR THE YEAR 1944.**

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
ROYTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the annual report relating to the sanitary circumstances of the area and the progress made during 1944.

I took up my duties on the 23rd October and for the short period to the end of the year my time was mainly devoted to making myself familiar with the district and dealing with matters outstanding since my predecessor's departure early in August.

May I express to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee, the Medical Officer of Health, and other Officials my thanks for their help and co-operation throughout the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. CAYTON,

Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION 1.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(1) Water Supply.

The piped water supply of the Oldham County Borough Council covers the greater part of the district of Royton. This piped supply is subject to chlorination.

(2) Drainage and Sewerage.

There was no important extension of sewerage during the year.

(3) Rivers and Streams.

Regular inspections were made and cleansing carried out as required.

(4) Sanitary Accommodation.

The following table gives details of the sanitary accommodation in the district at the end of 1944.

Fresh Water Closets	3931	Cesspools	nil
Waste Water Closets	931	Dustbins	4810
Privy Middens	nil	Dry Ashpits	14
Pail Closets	39		

(5) Public Cleansing.

The method of disposal continued to be that known as the biological or controlled system of tipping.

Controlled tipping continues in Royton Park to serve the double purpose of refuse disposal and of levelling up the playground.

Collecting motor vehicles numbered 2 full-time and 1 part-time.

The number of loads collected per week averaged 54 weighing approximately 85 tons 4 cwts., giving a total figure for the year ended December 31st, 1944 of 4,430 tons collected.

A stock of dustbins is kept in the Town's Yard for sale to owners wishing to purchase. Good use was made of the facilities provided.

(6) Sanitary Inspections during 1944 (including Housing).

During the course of the year the following nuisances or defects which were reported upon month by month to the Health Committee were dealt with. Out of a total of 381 nuisances listed in the Inspector's Journal, 376 were remedied in a satisfactory manner within the year.

They may be summarised as follows:—

Blocked drains	52
Defective drains	12
Drains re-laid (196 ft.).....	9
W.W.C. stoppages	22
Defective W.C's.	6
Defective W.W.C's.	3
Defective ash receptacles	119
Downspouts defective	7
Defective gutters	9
Defective water service pipes	20
Defective paving	4
Other housing defects	93
Dirty houses	4
Accumulations	5
Miscellaneous	11

Total 376

To secure the remedy of these defects, 176 letters, 55 formal notices, and 13 statutory notices were served upon owners or agents in addition to numerous interviews.

Legal proceedings were taken in one case and an Abatement Order was obtained.

(7) Shops and Offices.

No action was taken during 1944 to enforce the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, relating to the ventilation and temperature of shops, etc., and to sanitary conveniences.

Likewise, no action under the Public Health Act, 1936, was taken relating to conditions in Offices, i.e., ventilation, sanitary conveniences, etc.

(8) Camping Sites (other than Military).

No sites were used for this purpose for any extended period, making the issue of licences under the Public Health Act, 1936, unnecessary.

(9) Smoke Abatement.

No action was taken during the year.

(10) Swimming Baths.

The public swimming baths in the centre of the district continued to be well patronised. The filtered and chlorinated water was tested at frequent intervals for the determination of residual chlorine.

(11) Eradication of Vermin.

Advice was given by the writer to tenants. During the year four verminous premises were disinfested at the owner's expense.

(12) Schools.

These were visited and a report on one inspection relating to insanitary conditions was passed to the appropriate authority for attention.

(13) Offensive Trades.

None of these specified trades exist in the area.

(14) Factories Act, 1937.

(a) Factories (including factory bakehouses).

At the end of the year the number of factories in the district was 110. Of this number 89 were factories with mechanical power, and 21 were factories without mechanical power. Fifteen inspections were made.

(b) Bakehouse Provisions.

At the end of the year the bakehouses in the district numbered 40. Of this number 27 were entered in the register under factory bakehouses. 18 visits were made. They were generally well kept and complied with special provisions of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, Sec. 156 and 157, relating to bakehouses which are incorporated in the Factories Act, 1937.

One basement bakehouse in use in the district is subject to license by the Urban District Council and to review each successive fifth year.

(15) Common Lodging-Houses.

The two common lodging-houses received regular visits and were kept in a fair state of repair. One was closed down by the keeper during the year.

(16) Tents, Vans and Sheds, etc.

One application for Van refused by the Committee.

SECTION 2.

HOUSING.

(1) Statistics for the Year 1944.

Number of New Houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total including numbers given separately under (b)	nil
(1) By the Local Authority (completed)	nil
(2) By other Local Authorities	nil
(3) By other bodies or persons	nil
(b) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts:—	
(1) By Local Authority (completed).....	nil
(2) By other bodies or persons.....	nil

(2) Overcrowding.

The position in this respect was not exactly known, but could not be considered serious.

At the end of 1944 only two addresses remained on the list of legally overcrowded houses, but only a survey of the district would reveal the true position.

(3) Clearance and Improvement Areas.

No areas dealt with.

SECTION 3.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(1) Milk Supply.

Thirty-one inspections were made under the Milk and Dairies Regulations at the twenty-two dairy farms where approximately 320 cows are housed.

Seventy-seven milk purveyors, including local cow-keepers are registered to deliver milk in the area.

(1) Tuberculosis Milk—

Number of samples submitted for biological test 18.
Result—negative 15. Positive 3.

The positive results were reported to the Lancashire County Council for further investigation and action.

(2) Bacteriological Examinations—

Number of Samples—13.
Result—Satisfactory 10. Unsatisfactory 3.

The three samples classed "unsatisfactory" failed to pass a standard of not more than 200,000 bacteria per c.c. and no coliform bacilli in 1/100 c.c. Of those three samples one was from a local dairyman.

The Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936 and 1938.
Supplementary Licenses Granted.

Tuberculin tested	nil
Accredited	1
Pasteurised	2

(2) Meat and Other Foods.

During the year 76 visits were made to butcher's shops, bakehouses, and other food premises.

Ten slaughterhouses were licensed, but the slaughtering of animals for consumption in Royton continued to be controlled and executed at Oldham. Slaughtering in local slaughterhouses ceased on 14th January, 1940.

A total weight of 11 cwts. 1 qr. 4 lbs. of meat and other foodstuffs were condemned during the year. This figure does not include the work of inspection at Government Buffer Depots, details of which are not included in this report.

No legal proceedings were taken.

No case of food poisoning was notified.

(3) Adulteration, etc.

The County Sanitary Officer reported than no samples were taken during the year in this area.

Sampling under the Food and Drugs Act is carried out by Officers of the Lancashire County Council with my active co-operation and assistance.

SECTION 4.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Of the infectious diseases notified, 103 cases were investigated and following recovery or removal to hospital, 201 rooms in 124 houses were disinfected with formaldehyde. 7 sets of bedding were steam disinfected at the Oldham County Borough disinfecting station.

